Corning Union High School District

Master Plan for the Development and Sustainability of the Rodgers Ranch



2023-2033

Our Vision for the Rodgers Ranch is to create an agriculture educational campus where students will acquire the knowledge and hands-on skills necessary to succeed in their post-secondary career, and life choices.

This Master Plan for the Development and Sustainability of the Rodgers Ranch is respectfully submitted to the Board of Trustees for the Corning Union High School District for approval on December 14, 2023.

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RODGERS RANCH AGRICULTURE EDUCATIONAL CAMPUS CORE VALUES

The Board of Trustees has adopted the following Rodgers Ranch CORE VALUES:

EDUCATIONAL:

- 1. WE BELIEVE that Rodgers Ranch should make agricultural education its highest priority.
- 2. WE BELIEVE that Rodgers Ranch should be an educational laboratory for ALL students.
- 3. WE BELIEVE that the agricultural activities of Rodgers Ranch should maximize student involvement in curriculum, instruction and learning.
- 4. WE BELIEVE Rodgers Ranch should provide cutting edge learning opportunities that include "hands-on" skills that will lead students to occupational opportunities.
- 5. WE BELIEVE Rodgers Ranch should provide opportunities for multiple CTE pathways to integrate in the "real world application" of each pathway's knowledge and skills (marketing, Entrepreneurship, Manufacturing, etc).

COMMUNITY:

6. WE BELIEVE Rodgers Ranch should partner with other school districts, higher educational institutions, and appropriate industry resources to promote student learning, agricultural experiences, and community involvement.

FINANCIAL

- 7. WE BELIEVE Rodgers Ranch should be economically self-sufficient and sustainable by 2026.
- 8. WE BELIEVE Rodgers Ranch should commit usable land for agricultural purposes that promote student learning and economic self-sufficiency.
- 9. WE BELIEVE Corning Union High School District should properly develop and maintain Rodgers Ranch using income generated from the Ranch and Endowment.

RODGERS RANCH AGRICULTURE EDUCATIONAL CAMPUS MISSION AND VISION

Our VISION:

To create an agriculture educational campus where students will acquire the knowledge and hands-on skills necessary to succeed in their post-secondary career, and life choices.

Our MISSION:

Rodgers Ranch is committed to developing the potential of students through the hands-on application of skills and knowledge in a diverse agricultural setting.

RODGERS RANCH AGRICULTURE EDUCATIONAL CAMPUS EXPECTATIONS AND OBJECTIVES

1. MASTER PLAN OVERSIGHT

A Rodgers Oversight Committee will monitor progress with the implementation of the Master Plan and make recommendations to the Governing Board regarding allocations from the Rodgers Endowment. This committee will meet quarterly and consist of the following members:

- Two (2) Governing Board Members
- Superintendent
- CUHS Principal
- Centennial Principal
- Ranch Manager
- Director of MOT
- Three (3) CUHS Ag Teachers
- District CTE Pathway Coordinator
- Non-Ag Teacher
- FFA Student
- Two (2) Private Sector Agricultural Representative

2. MAINTAIN THE POSITION OF RANCH MANAGER

A part time Ranch Manager will oversee the implementation of the Master Plan. The job description requires that this person have current knowledge and experience in agriculture and livestock practices. The Ranch Manager will report quarterly to the CUHSD Board regarding the Ranch Plan. The intent of the Master Plan is that the Ranch Manager position be fully funded by income generated from the Ranch by 2026.

- Direct crop production operations, such as planning, tilling, planting, fertilizing, cultivating, spraying, or harvesting. This may include the hiring of sub-contractors for specific farm labor needs. The Ranch Manager will be responsible for the following:
- Works with certificated and classified staff to coordinate student activities at the Ranch.
- Oversees the care, maintenance, and harvest of orchards and row crops.
- Oversees general maintenance of the Ranch (mowing, spraying, etc) and notifies the Superintendent if additional labor (district staff or contracted labor) is necessary for Ranch upkeep.

- Participates in the development of the Ranch budget and plans, develops and implements policies, guidelines and operational procedures to ensure cost effective operations.
- Confers with maintenance personnel regarding ongoing maintenance of ranch facilities.
- Helps ensure a safe environment for students, staff and community visiting the Ranch. Investigates accidents occurring on Ranch property and prepares appropriate reports.
- Serves as a permanent member of the Rodgers Oversight Committee.
- Works with District IPM coordinator to follow all applicable guidelines related to chemical use in District facilities.
- Seeks and assists in applying for grants to maintain and upgrade Ranch infrastructure.
- Monitors use of supplies at Ranch and completes proper accounting and reporting documentation.
- Reports regularly to the Board of Trustees and/or the Rodgers Oversight Committee regarding activities at the Ranch.
- Works with FFA advisors as necessary to support student projects housed at the Ranch.
- Works with appropriate district staff to assure all funds generated at the Ranch are properly accounted for and reported to the Superintendent and/or Board of Trustees.
- Inspect farm or ranch structures, such as buildings, fences, or roads, ordering repair or maintenance activities, as needed.
- Work with other staff to monitor pasture or grazing land use to ensure that livestock are properly fed or that conservation methods, such as rotational grazing, are used.
- In cooperation with other staff, negotiate with buyers for the sale, storage, or shipment of crops or livestock.
- Plan crop activities based on factors such as crop maturity or weather conditions.
- Select or purchase machinery, equipment, livestock, or supplies, such as seed, feed, fertilizer, or chemicals.
- Inspect orchards or fields to determine crop maturity or condition or to detect disease or insect infestation.
- Monitor and adjust irrigation systems to distribute water according to crop needs and to avoid wasting water.
- Determine types or quantities of crops or livestock to be raised, according to factors such as market conditions, federal programs or incentives, or soil conditions.

3. FISCAL INDEPENDENCE AND SOLVENCY

The Rodgers Ranch will be financially self-sustaining by 2026. This means funds utilized to operate the Ranch will be taken solely from income generated from Ranch activities and/or the Rodgers Endowment. When the costs of accomplishing objectives listed in this plan are higher than funding available from the Endowment and/or Ranch income, the Board may allocate funding from other District funds to accomplish tasks listed in this plan, as appropriate.

4. LAND USAGE

Rodgers Ranch will be highly diversified. Land will be developed for the following uses:

- Education (classrooms, walking paths, botanical gardens)
- Retail (red barn)
- Gardens (production and aesthetic)
- Project and Production Row Crops
- Production Orchards
- Pastures for Grazing
- Wetlands and Restoration
- Equipment Training & Repair

5. STUDENT USE

Rodgers Ranch will be available for educational use by ALL students and staff in the Corning Union High School District while also providing dedicated areas for FFA projects and events.

6. PARTNERSHIPS

Rodgers Ranch shall partner with the following entities:

- Agribusiness
- Post-Secondary Educational Institutions
- Local Elementary Schools
- Community Members/Organizations

7. STUDENT CHAIRPERSONS

Beginning in the 2024-25 school year, a student (or two) will be assigned to each of the following sectors of the Ranch:

- Beef/Pasture
- Walnuts
- Olives
- Greenhouse/Berries
- Peach Orchard
- Row Crops/Pumpkins
- Creek/Wetlands
- Retail/Gardens

8. CTE PATHWAY INTEGRATION

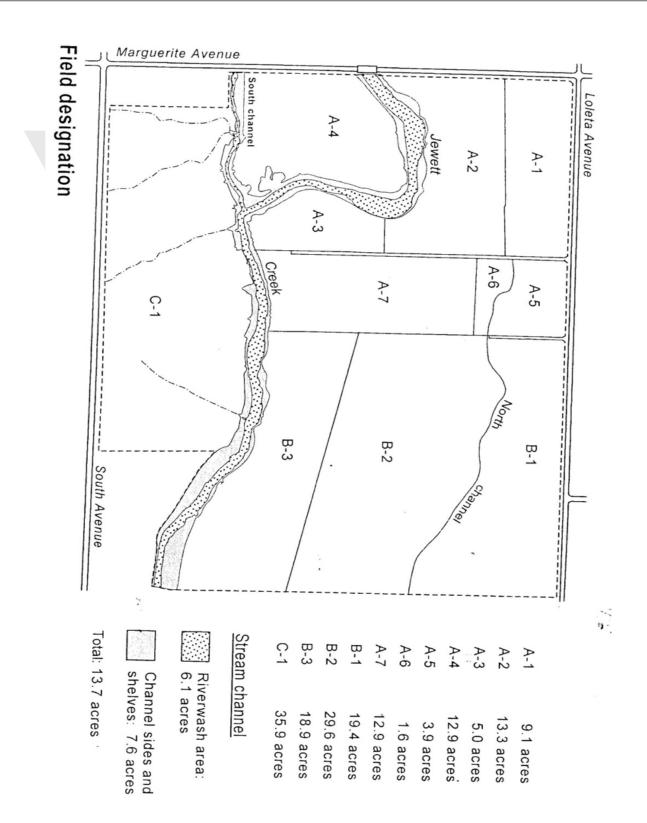
Rodgers Ranch will be utilized for the integration of CTE pathways, including, but not limited to: entrepreneurship, marketing, and manufacturing.

RODGERS RANCH AGRICULTURE EDUCATIONAL CAMPUS LAND USE & SUSTAINABILITY

- A-1 Annual row crops, FFA student projects lease for seed/crops <u>or</u> teacher/student driven
- A-2 Annual row crops, FFA student projects lease for seed/crops <u>or</u> teacher/student driven
- A-3 Greenhouse, Garden, Pumpkins, and Berries
- A-4 Classroom, Red Barn (retail), pumpkins, vegetable garden, flower garden, community tours/access, small animals, picnic area
- A-5 Pasture/Livestock
- A-6 Pasture/Livestock
- A-7 Pasture/Livestock
- B-1 Production Agriculture Walnuts
- B-2 Production Agriculture Walnuts
- B-3 Production Agriculture Walnuts, Wetland
- C-1 Olives, Sponsorship Signage

RODGERS RANCH AGRICULTURE EDUCATIONAL CAMPUS

FIELD DESIGNATION MAP



RODGERS RANCH AGRICULTURE EDUCATIONAL CAMPUS

TIMELINES

2023-24

- Perform earth work in area A-2.
- Identify winter feeding area(s) for cows on Ranch property
- Develop plans and establish budget for restoration of wetland pond
- Planting of native plant species along planned trail pathway
- Address erosion concerns from a downed tree in Jewitt Creek south of the livestock barn. This area is utilized for parking during large Ranch events.

2024-2028

- Connect new "B" well to irrigation pipes for areas A-1, A-2, A-3
- Establish student chairpersons for areas of Ranch oversight as outlined in the "Expectations and Objectives" portion of this master plan.
- Develop plans to build a bridge over Jewett Creek. The Oversight Committee, the Ranch Manager, and the District Office will research the best and safest way to build and maintain a bridge. When a plan is completed, the District will present the plan to the Board for approval. Upon approval, and when funding is identified, the bridge will be built. If needed, irrigation pipes can be run from the bridge, across the creek.
- Host FFA Field Day
- Complete restoration of wetland pond
- Add signage promoting Ranch on South Avenue
- Add sponsorship signs on South Avenue
- Move fence at Loleta and Marguerite back, install permanent signage
- Identify funding, develop plans, and install a shade house for plant starts for the greenhouse

2028-2033

- Complete construction of a bridge over Jewett Creek from areas A-3 to A-4. The Master Plan has the bridge planned and approved by 2028. Funding will then be determined and construction started. The railroad bridge would need to be completed by 2033 if not sooner.
- Complete plans and identify funding for covered outdoor eating and gathering area directly North of the classroom and south of the peach orchard.